Recommendation of Law Commission regarding women prisoners

†1555. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended the exemption of women prisoners from labour work under section 433 (A) of Criminal Procedure Code;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard so far; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government for the improvement of conditions of women prisoners in various jails?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) 'Prisons' being a State subject as per entry 4 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, it is the responsibility to the State Governments to take necessary steps for the improvement of conditions of women prisoners. However, Central Government have been providing financial assistance to the State Governments for improving the condition of prisons and prisoners, including women prisoners, besides issuing of advisories on the subject. The Central Government have started a new scheme for construciton of new prisons to reduce over crowding including exclusive prisons for women wherever required depending upon the number of women prisoners and other revlevant factors.

Setting up prisons exclusively for women

†1556. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make it mandatory to set up prisons managed by the women employees keeping in view the number and population of convicted women in each State;

(b) if so, the number of such women prisons set up so far in different States; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.